

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this amendment, the specification has been amended in the same manner as in the parent application. Applicants submit that these amendments do not introduce new matter as should be apparent from the changes and/or as explained in previous priority applications. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

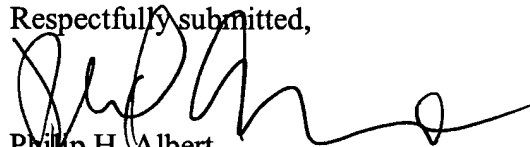
Applicants submit that the claims introduced herein are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date:

6/19/03

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Amendments to the Drawings:

In Fig. 8(c) of the attached formal drawings, a reference "E=E+1" was added to step 885. This reference did not appear in the drawings as originally filed in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/246,015, filed February 5, 1999, from which the present application claims priority. Nonetheless, Applicant submits that this insertion is not new matter, since it is clear from the original Figs. 8(b) and 8(c) that step 885 in Fig. 8(c) would contain a step of incrementing E just as in step 865 of Fig. 8(b).

During preparation of the formal drawings, several other changes were made to the drawings as originally filed in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/246,015. Applicant submits that none of the changes alters the disclosure provided by the drawings in view of the specification, but the changes merely improve the readability of the drawings and conform the drawings to the specification. If the Examiner or the Draftsperson objects to any of the formal drawings, Applicant hereby offers to remove any of the changes from the formal drawings. The changes noted upon comparison of the formal drawings to the as-filed drawings include:

- Arrowheads, connection dots and ellipses added for clarity in various places.
- Titles for figure labels removed to comply with CFR drawing requirements.
- In Fig. 1, "channel" inserted into block 145, which the specification identifies as "channel 145".
- In Fig. 4, added lines and ellipses to box 405; added label "155" to reference entire figure.
- In Fig. 5, the reference number "75" for the row lists in ISDS 510 was removed because it is not used in the specification; in OSDS 505, the column labeled Xor_Plus was changed to Xor_Pos to conform to the specification.
- In Fig. 6, in boxes 620 and 630, removed reference numbers and references to figures, as the referenced figures are flowcharts and the reference numbers refer to blocks in other figures; also in box 605, added "ISDS 510 following "Initialize".
- In Figs. 8(a), 10, 12, removed figure reference numbers (525, 910 and 1110, respectively) as those reference numbers refer to blocks in other figures.

- In Fig. 11, added label "T" to top of vertical line pointing down to Wt_Calc.
- In Fig. 14, removed reference number 1410 from row lists, since 1410 does not appear in the specification.
- In Fig. 15, corrected clear error in that the assignment of values to the variable R happen in the second loop, not the first loop.
- In Fig. 17, the column heading "XOR_PLUS" was changed to "XOR_POS" to conform to the specification.
- In Fig. 18, the reference number for the Weight Sort table was changed to 1405 to conform to the specification.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets